



State of Washington

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N - Olympia, Washington 98501-1091 - (360) 902-2200, TDD (360) 902-2207
Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

Name of Proposal: WDFW MODROW FISH TRAP UPGRADE

Description of Proposal:

Modrow Trap: This project upgrades an existing fish ladder and weir structure. The major elements of the project include an expanded fish trap, a fish lift vault, bank stabilization, and a fish sorting facility. The new design allows for enhanced fish trapping, on site sorting and release of wild fall Chinook and coho. Modifications will allow for adult processing on site and the ability to extract hatchery adults and provide passage for wild fish upstream. The size of the existing trap will be expanded from 720 square feet; to 1,295 square feet.

The total project area is expected to be approximately 8,000 square feet. This area includes the coffer cell and bank stabilization area below OHW (3,500 square feet), and the uplands area above OHW (4,500 square feet). Bank modifications and stabilization are included as part of the proposed project.

Water will be prevented from entering the construction area by the placing super sacks (sealed in place) around the existing fish trap. Groundwater seepage into the construction area during construction activities will be removed from the area by pumping it into filtration sacks at the edge of the construction area.

The precast concrete fish lift vault will be attached perpendicularly from the existing concrete trap wall with concrete. Concrete will be used for construction of the fish lift vault floor.

For construction inside the trap, a steel floor will be installed at the downstream end of the trap over an existing concrete slab. To stabilize the steel plate, concrete will be pumped into the void between the steel plate and the stream bed below.

Grading activities include excavation in the fish lift vault and truck loading area. Precast concrete ecology blocks and large rocks will be used to stabilize the banks both upstream and downstream of the new Modrow Trap. A gravel/soil mix will be used as backfill as needed to stabilize the vault location. Large rock will be obtained from a local quarry and from bank materials found on site. Gravel will be obtained from a local quarry or from materials excavated on site. Precast concrete and cast in place concrete will be obtained from a local supplier. All filling and grading will be conducted above OHW using a tracked excavator positioned on the hydraulic left bank of the Kalama River.

Off Site Mitigation: This project installs LWM at a side channel near the mainstem of the Kalama River near the WDFW Sportsman's Loop Access area. The area was created in 2009 by dredging the side channel and placing LWD to create habitat. This proposed project will add supplemental LWM to the area positioned more than 100 feet landward from the Kalama River, in areas that do not impede flow from tidal changes or disturb LWM already in place in the upper 300 feet of the existing channel. Note: LWM (Large Woody Material and LWD (Large Woody Debris) refer to 12-24 inch logs).

Construction methods: Equipment used to place the LWM will be an excavator and dump truck and some hand tools. The heavy equipment will enter the project site from the Sportsman's Loop parking lot and adjoining access road above the site. The material will be moved to each location as directed by the engineer on site. The same route for delivery of LWM will be used to minimize riparian disturbance. Approximately 7 alder and/or maple trees may be removed for site access. Additional trees may be trimmed to allow heavy equipment access. Ramps may be placed down the hillside and alongside and possibly in the channel area for minimal disturbance of riparian vegetation and safer installation of the LWM. Ramps will be removed at project completion. Logs used will be 12 – 24 inch in diameter and placed so that 20 to 30 % of the log is visible at low tide. Logs will be pushed into place with the excavator anchored in place with mantaray anchors. No impact driving will be used.

All access points and disturbed areas will be replanted with native plants. Erosion prevention jute mat materials such as "Geogute" and coir logs will be used to minimize erosion during construction. Construction activities will last approximately two weeks, and it will occur within the in-water work window during low tide, and in accordance with approved permit windows. Fish removal will be done before construction, and nets will be placed at both ends of the project to isolate the area.

Proponent/Applicant:

Washington State Fish and Wildlife
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Location of Proposal, including street, if any: 151 Modrow Trap Rd., Kalama, WA 98625, Cowlitz County; Section 32, Township 07 North, Range 01 West WM

Location of Off-Site Mitigation, including street, if any: Sportsman's Loop, Lower Kalama Access site, Washington, Cowlitz County; Section 05, Township 06 North, Range 01 West WM

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

WDFW has determined that this proposal will likely not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. Therefore, state law¹ does not require an environmental impact statement (EIS). WDFW made this determination of nonsignificance (DNS) after we reviewed the environmental checklist and other information on file with us.

We issued this DNS according to state rules.² We will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date we issued the DNS. Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal or DNS. We must receive your comments within 14 days of the date of this letter. This means we must receive your comments by **July 30, 2013**.

Method of Comment:

The following procedures shall govern the method to comment on agency SEPA proposals. Comments received through these procedures are part of the official SEPA record for this proposal.

You can submit your comments any one of the following ways:

- Email to SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov
- Online at the WDFW SEPA website comment link at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/>

- Fax to (360) 902-2946;
- Mail to the address below.

Responsible Official: Bob Zeigler

Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Regulatory Services Section

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

After the comment period closes, applicants may view the updated status of this proposal on the WDFW SEPA website: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/> Once the status is posted as final, applicants and permittees may take action on the proposal. When a proposal is modified or withdrawn, notice will be given in accordance with state law.¹

If you have questions about this DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Bob Zeigler at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call him at (360) 902-2578.

DATE OF ISSUE: July 15, 2013

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

1. RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c)
2. WAC 197-11-340(2).

SEPA Log Number: 13 -054. dns

